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BOROUGH OF OLDBURY.



REPORT

ON THE

HEALTH OF OLDBURY

For the Year, 1945.

OLDBURY:
The Midland Printing Co., Ltd., Simpson Street.

Borough



of Oldbury

ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE

Medical Officer of Health

and

CHIEF SANITARY INSPECTOR.

For the Year 1945.

Medical Officer of Health:

RONALD G. SMITHSON, M.D., Ch.B. (Hons.), D.P.H.

Chief Sanitary Inspector:

EDGAR HARROLD, F.S.I.A., M.I.P.C.

PRINTED BY ORDER OF THE COUNCIL.

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BOROUGH OF OLDBURY.

MEMBERS OF THE HEALTH COMMITTEE, NOV., 1944—OCT., 1945.

ALDERMAN S. T. MELSOM, C.C., *Chairman*.

ALDERMAN MRS. L. A. SMITH, *Vice-Chairman*.

THE MAYOR (COUNCILLOR C. T. BARLOW).

THE DEPUTY MAYOR (COUNCILLOR J. F. GOODE).

ALDERMAN B. T. ROBBINS, J.P. COUNCILLOR W. S. HUMPHREY.

COUNCILLOR A. GUNN. „ G. W. ROSE, J.P.

„ E. HARRIS. „ MRS. V. E. ROSE.

„ J. W. HOLLAND.

MEMBERS OF THE MATERNITY AND CHILD WELFARE COMMITTEE, NOV., 1944—OCT., 1945.

ALDERMAN MRS. L. A. SMITH, *Chairman*.

ALDERMAN S. T. MELSOM, C.C., *Vice-Chairman*.

THE MAYOR (COUNCILLOR C. T. BARLOW).

THE DEPUTY MAYOR (COUNCILLOR J. F. GOODE).

COUNCILLOR G. H. GRIFFITHS. COUNCILLOR

„ A. GUNN, „ MRS. R. SMALLWOOD,

„ J. W. HOLLAND. J.P.

„ MRS. V. E. ROSE. „ C. H. WHITE.

STAFF OF THE HEALTH DEPARTMENT:

Medical Officer of Health:

RONALD G. SMITHSON, M.D., Ch.B. (Hons.), D.P.H.

Assistant Medical Officers:

H. C. WILLIAMSON, M.B., B.Ch., D.P.H.

BERTHA HENLY, M.B., Ch.B., M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P.,
(part time).

Dental Surgeon:

W. CROFTS ARKLE, L.D.S., R.F.P.S. (Glas.)
(H.M. Forces).

EDWARD DAVID STERNBACH, M.D. (Resigned 30-9-45).

H. ROSE,
D. HALLEY GOOSE, { Part-time from 1-10-45.

Chief Sanitary Inspector:

EDGAR HARROLD, F.S.I.A., M.I.P.C. (a.b.)

Ophthalmic Specialist (*part time*):

CHAS. RUDD, M.B., F.R.F.P.S., D.O.M.S., R.C.P.S.

Consultants:

MR. ALFRED DANBY, F.R.C.S. (Edin.).

MR. J. S. M. CONNELL, F.R.C.S. (Edin.).

Superintendent Health Visitor and Supervisor of Midwives:

MRS. M. J. ASTLEY (c.d.e.f.)

Health Visitors and School Nurses:

MISS H. STANSFIELD (c.d.e.) MISS M. E. ASPINALL (c.d.e.)

Assistant Health Visitors and School Nurses:

MISS B. WHILE (d.e.) MRS. L. COZENS (e.)

„ V. V. COOPER (e.) Resigned 30-4-45.

Commenced 1-11-45.

Municipal Midwives:

NURSE G. N. DAWSON (d.e.) NURSE E. A. NIX (d.)

„ H. L. GAUNT (d.e.) „ G. HADLEY (d.e.)

„ C. E. HADLEY (d.e.) Commenced 1-3-45.

„ E. D. CORSER (d.e.) „ J. DEAN (d.e.)

Resigned 30-11-45. Commenced 1-3-45.

Sanitary Inspectors:

Chief—EDGAR HARROLD, F.S.I.A., M.I.P.C. (a.b.)

Senior Additional—ALBERT ROWLEY, M.S.I.A. (a.b.)

Additional—F. J. ANDREWS, M.S.I.A. (a.b.)

W. J. MASON, M.S.I.A. (a.b.), H.M. Forces

Clerical Staff:

Health:

Chief Clerk—S. ASTLEY
(H.M. Forces)
Temporary Chief Clerk—
MRS. F. DETHERIDGE.
(Resigned 31-12-45)
MISS N. B. RICKETTS.
,, L. HADLEY (Returned
from industrial work
on 16-7-45)
,, S. M. WATERHOUSE.
,, I. HIPKISS.
,, M. D. LEESE (British Red
Cross Nursing Service)
,, M. E. TROMANS
,, M. COLEY
(Resigned 31-7-45)
,, G. SHUKER
MRS. A. MANSELL
(Resigned 28-4-45)
MISS I. D. BUTLER
(Commenced 8-8-45)

Sanitary:

J. S. KNIGHT (H.M. Forces)
T. K. BOSTON (H.M. Forces)
F. W. KEENE (H.M. Forces)
D. PARTRIDGE (H.M. Forces)
W. H. POULTNEY
(H.M. Forces)
S. H. NICHOLLS
(Resigned 8-1-45)
MISS M. R. RICHARDS
(Commenced 22-1-45)

Dental Attendant:

MISS A. E. SMITH.

NOTES.

- (a) Holds the Sanitary Inspectors' Certificate granted by the Royal Sanitary Institute and Sanitary Inspectors' Association Joint Board.
- (b) Holds the Meat and Foods Inspectors' Certificate granted by the Royal Sanitary Institute.
- (c) Holds the Health Visitors' Certificate approved by the Ministry of Health.
- (d) Holds the Midwives' Certificate granted by the Central Midwives Board
- (e) Trained Nurse.
- (f) Holds the Midwives Teachers' Diploma.

BOROUGH OF OLDBURY.

ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE

Medical Officer of Health.

For the Year, 1945.

**To the Mayor, Aldermen, and Councillors of the
Borough of Oldbury.**

Mr. Mayor, Ladies and Gentlemen,

The vital Statistics for 1945 are satisfactory in the main. The birth rate continued to exceed 20 per thousand population and the total number of births exceeded one thousand. The Stillbirth and Infant Mortality rates reached record low figures. Unfortunately the illegitimate birth rate was doubled and the number of deaths from heart disease was appreciably increased.

Tuberculosis notifications were reduced although the death rate remained the same as in the previous year. Delay in admitting cases to sanatorium combined with the overcrowded housing circumstances in the area are not conducive to maintenance of such statistics.

The body of the report contains some observations on the Housing problem in the Borough. Much is being done and much remains to be done to solve it. In fairness it should be said that housing conditions are producing so much distress and unhappiness that whatever progress were being made it would still be too slow. Until far bigger inroads have been made into the problem we can

expect propagation of tuberculosis, incidence of rheumatic conditions and general substandard health to increase. The fact that young children have to share small rooms with parents at night time is likely to give unworthy dividends in the future.

Once again it is possible to report progress in the preparatory work towards establishment of a Maternity Home in the town. It will be a great occasion when this scheme is transmuted into bricks and mortar.

Attendances at the Welfare Centres continued to be high and your Committee explored many ideas with a view to improving accommodation in the Borough.

A continuing difficulty was the lack of Health Visitors. The Council joined a scheme for training students in Birmingham on the principle that self help is the best policy. One wonders whether implementation of National Conditions of Service do not react unfavourably on areas such as this.

Once again it is my pleasure to acknowledge the loyalty and endeavour of Members of the Staff of the Department. To colleagues in other Departments, to practitioners in the town and to hospitals and consultants in the area we are indebted for help and co-operation throughout the year. In particular one would make special mention of the readiness with which our requests for guidance and assistance to the Bacteriology Department, University of Birmingham, are answered.

Finally, Mr. Mayor, we acknowledge with thanks the interest, patience and wholehearted confidence of the Chairmen and Committees we serve.

I beg to remain,

Your obedient servant,

RONALD G. SMITHSON,

Medical Officer of Health.

Health Department,
Municipal Buildings,
Oldbury.

CLINICS AND TREATMENT CENTRES.

Name.	Situation.	Sessions.	Accommodation.	Provided.
Oldbury I.W.	Wesley Street, Oldbury.	Monday and Thursday (until 30-9-45) 2 p.m.	Consulting, Infant Weigh- ing and Wait- ing Rooms.	Oldbury Borough Council
Langley I.W.	" The Hollies," Langley.	Wednesday and Friday 2 p.m.	Do.	Do.
Warley I.W.	Bleakhouse Rd.,	Tuesday and Wednesday 2 p.m.	Do. (from 6-6-44)	Do.
Oldbury A.N.	Wesley Street, Oldbury.	Thursday, 9-30 a.m.	Consulting and Waiting Rooms.	Do.
Langley A.N.	" The Hollies," Langley.	Tuesday and Friday 9-30 a.m.	Do.	Do.
Warley A.N.	Bleakhouse Rd., Warley. (from 1-5-45)	Monday (from 1-5-45) and Wednesday 9-30 a.m.	Do.	Do.
Dental Clinic M. and C.W.	Rounds Green, Oldbury	Wednesday and Friday 4-0 to 5-30 p.m.	Treatment, Waiting and Recovery Rooms.	Do.
Dental Clinic M. and C.W.	Bleakhouse Rd., Warley.	Monday and Thursday 4-0 to 5-30 p.m.	Do.	Do.
School Clinic.	Rounds Green, Oldbury	M.O. and Nurse Daily 9—9-30 a.m.	Consulting, Treatment and Waiting Rooms.	Do.
School Clinic.	Bleakhouse Rd., Warley.	M.O. and Nurse Daily 9—9-30 a.m.	Do.	Do.
School Clinic,	" The Hollies," Langley.	M.O. and Nurse Daily 9—9-30 a.m.	Do.	Do.
Dental Clinic S.M.S.	Rounds Green, Oldbury	Wednesday and Friday	Do.	Do.
Dental Clinic S.M.S.	Bleakhouse Rd., Warley.	Monday and Thursday.	Do.	Do.
Scabies Clinic	Wesley Street, Oldbury.	By appoint- ment.	Treatment and Waiting Rooms.	Do.
Ophthalmic Clinic.	Rounds Green, Oldbury	2nd and 4th Thursday at 2 p.m.	Consulting, Treatment and Waiting Rooms.	Do.
Ophthalmic Clinic.	Bleakhouse Rd., Warley.	1st Thursday at 2 p.m.	Do.	Do.
E.N.T. Clinic.	" The Hollies," Langley.	Monday 2 p.m.	Consulting and Waiting Rooms.	Do.
Orthopædic Clinic.	" The Hollies," Langley.	Thursday 2 p.m.	Consulting and Waiting Rooms.	Do.
Sunray Clinic.	Messrs. Accles & Pollock Ltd., Solarium.	Tuesday 2 p.m.	Treatment and Waiting Rooms.	Do.
Tuberculosis Dispensary.	F.B. Dispensary Greenwood Av. Langley.	Monday 2—5-30 p.m.	Do.	Worcester County Council.

1.—GENERAL STATISTICS.

Area (acres)	3,300
Population (Registrar General's Estimate Mid-summer, 1945)	59,040
Population, (Census 1931)	35,918
Number of inhabited houses	13,927
Rateable Value (1st April, 1945) ..	£227,668 0 0
Sum represented by a penny rate ...	£880
General Rate—1944-1945	17 0
Amount of Poor Law Relief administered during the year 1945	£7,385 19 2
Unemployment—31st December, 1945:-	
Men and Boys wholly unemployed ...	30
Women and Girls	Nil.
Temporary stoppage:-	
Men and Boys } not permissible under the Essential Work	
Women and Girls } (General Provision) Order, 1942.	

2.—EXTRACTS FROM VITAL STATISTICS FOR THE YEAR.

	M.	F.	Total.
Live Births { Legitimate	490	468	958
{ Illegitimate	27	27	54
	<u>517</u>	<u>495</u>	<u>1,012</u>
Birth-rate per 1,000 of the population			20·22
Stillbirths 24 Rate per 1,000 total births			23·16
Deaths 452 Death-rate			9·03
Number of women dying in, or in consequence of, childbirth was 2		Rate per 1000 Births (Live and Still) 1·93	
Death-rates of Infants under one year:—			
All Infants per 1,000 live births	(34)		33·59
Legitimate Infants per 1,000 Legitimate live births	(30)		31·31
Illegitimate Infants per 1000 Illegitimate live births ...	(4)		74·07
Deaths from Cancer (all ages)		69	
Deaths from Pulmonary Tuberculosis (all ages) ...		26	
Deaths from Measles (all ages)		4	
Deaths from Whooping Cough (all ages)		—	
Deaths from Diarrhoea (under 2 years)		—	

3.—BIRTH AND DEATH RATES PER 1,000 TOTAL POPULATION.

	Birth Rates		Death Rate.
	Live Birth.	Stillbirth.	
England and Wales	16.1	0.46	11.4
126 County Boroughs, and Great Towns, including London ...	19.1	0.58	13.5
148 Smaller Towns, population 25,000 to 50,000	19.2	0.53	12.3
London Administrative County ...	15.7	0.40	13.8
OLDBURY	20.22	0.47	9.03

POPULATION.

The Registrar General estimates that 50,040 persons were resident in the Oldbury area at Midsummer, 1945. The "natural increase of population," that is excess of births over deaths, during the year was 560.

DEATHS.

In 1945, 292 deaths were registered in the Oldbury area. 14 of these deaths were of persons not normally resident in the district, and 174 Oldbury residents died outside the district. The aggregate number of deaths for the year was 452, representing a death rate of 9.03 per thousand of the estimated population. The corresponding figures for 1944 were 445 total deaths and a death rate of 8.86.

Of the 452 deaths, 34 were of infants under one year of age, representing an infantile mortality rate of 33.59 per thousand live births. In 1944 there were 40 deaths under one year of age and an infantile mortality rate of 37.18 per thousand live births.

The most frequent causes of deaths, the number of deaths so registered, and the corresponding death rates per thousand of the population were:—

Heart Disease	106	deaths equivalent to a death rate of 2.01
Cancer	69	„ „ „ „ 1.37
Intra-Cranial		
Vascular Lesions	48	„ „ „ „ 0.95
Bronchitis	42	„ „ „ „ 0.83
Tuberculosis	29	„ „ „ „ 0.57
Pneumonia	17	„ „ „ „ 0.33

Heart Disease occupies first place as primary cause of death.

HEART DISEASE.

Of the 106 deaths recorded as due to heart disease, 78 relate to persons over the age of 65 and only 7 were in respect of persons under 45 years of age. The death rate from heart disease is 25% higher than in 1944.

CANCER.

For purposes of comparison the following table gives a summary of the deaths from Cancer, and the age distribution of those deaths during the past five years.

Year	ESTIMATED POPULATION	NUMBER OF DEATHS			Rate per 1000 Pop.	AGE DISTRIBUTION				
		Males	Fe- males	Total		5-15 Years	15-25 Years	25-45 Years	45-65 Years	65 years & over
1941	49,390	45	27	72	1.45	2	..	4	36	30
1942	49,530	30	34	64	1.29	1	...	4	21	38
1943	50,100	48	32	80	1.59	...	...	10	25	45
1944	50,220	32	33	65	1.29	1	1	7	23	33
1945	50,040	42	27	69	1.37	1	...	6	29	33

An analysis of the deaths from malignant disease shows that the site of the cancer causing death was as follows:—

				Male		Female	
				No.	Average age.	No.	Average age.
1. Carcinoma of Intestinal Tract:							
a.	Buccal cavity	...	4	65	—	—	—
b.	Oesophagus	...	2	59 (43-75)	—	—	—
c.	Stomach	...	7	63	4	71	—
d.	Duodenum	...	1	59	—	—	—
e.	Pancreas	...	1	63	2	57	—
f.	Colon	...	5	73	4	68	—
g.	Rectum	...	6	71	2	74	—
2. Carcinoma of Female Generative Organs:							
a.	Breast	...	—	—	6	68	—
b.	Uterus	...	—	—	3	55	—
c.	Vagina	...	—	—	1	66	—
d.	Ovary	...	—	—	2	58	—

				Male		Female		
				No.	Average age.	No.	Average age.	
3.	Carcinoma of Respiratory Tract:							
	a.	Larynx	...	...	1	62	—	—
	b.	Lung	...	...	3	70	2	57
	c.	Mediastinum	...	...	1	39	—	—
4.	Carcinoma of Urinary Tract:							
	a.	Kidney	...	...	1	72	—	—
	b.	Bladder	...	...	5	60	—	—
5.	Carcinoma of Brain			...	2	29	1	29
6.	Miscellaneous			...	3		1	
					—		—	
					42		27	
					—		—	

TUBERCULOSIS.

Three of the twenty-nine deaths from tuberculosis were non-pulmonary cases. The following table shows the sex and age groups in which the 26 deaths from pulmonary tuberculosis occurred during 1945. For comparison the table includes the corresponding figures since 1936:—

Year	Total	Death Rate	SEX		0-15 Years	15-25 Years	25-35 Years	35-45 Years	45-55 Years	55 Years & over
1937	25	.49	Male	14	1	1	3	5	1	3
			Female	11	1	2	3	2	2	1
1938	30	.59	Male	18	...	4	3	1	4	6
			Female	12	...	5	3	4	...	...
1939	28	.55	Male	17	1	1	3	4	2	6
			Female	11	...	6	2	2	1	...
1940	39	.77	Male	27	...	4	8	5	5	6
			Female	12	...	6	1	3	1	...
1941	30	.59	Male	17	...	...	6	1	3	7
			Female	13	2	4	2	3	...	2
1942	34	.67	Male	22	...	5	3	4	7	3
			Female	12	...	6	1	5	...	...
1943	42	.83	Male	25	...	3	7	6	7	2
			Female	17	2	7	4	2	1	1
1944	26	.52	Male	13	...	1	4	1	3	4
			Female	13	1	3	1	4	1	3
1945	26	.52	Male	16	...	...	4	2	3	7
			Female	10	...	3	3	2	2	...

If earlier diagnosis can be backed-up by better facilities for early institutional treatment there is no reason to doubt that the death rate could be reduced still further.

BOROUGH AMBULANCE SERVICE.

The service was run by the Air Raid Precautions Committee during the first half of the year and tribute must be paid to those members of the Civil Defence organisation who maintained the service in a high degree of efficiency.

From 1st July the Watch Committee became fully responsible for carrying on the tradition of a free ambulance service for the benefit of Oldbury residents. The vehicles were transferred from the Civil Defence Moat Farm Depot to the old Fire Station to meet the need of having personnel living nearby.

During the year 3,253 ordinary cases, 313 accident cases and 146 maternity cases were transported. The total mileage covered was 24,854.

The accident cases can be divided into:—

158	Road accidents
69	Works ,,
79	Home ,,
7	School ,,

Personnel at the Ambulance Station are on duty from 8 a.m. to 6 p.m. and on call on rota from 6 p.m. to 8 a.m. The number of cases transported between 8 a.m. and 6 p.m. throughout the year was 3,237 and 475 between 6 p.m. and 8 a.m.

In a town with concentrated industrial activities, crossed by at least four roads carrying heavy traffic the continuance of an ambulance service locally seems imperative.

SANITARY CONDITIONS OF THE AREA.

Housing.

With the end of hostilities in Europe and the Far East came the opportunity to tackle the biggest health problem in the area—namely, housing. It was gratifying to see building work start in the area before the end of the year.

Before any problem can be solved it is useful to know the size of the problem to be faced. For this reason the position in Oldbury in 1945 should be recorded in this report.

The Council found itself with few sites on which road works had been completed ready for building. A site at Wolverhampton Road, Causeway Green, for 250 houses was used during the War for other purposes than house building. This site may not be available for its original purpose for some time. A site for 22 houses on the Pennicricket Estate was fully prepared and a site for 46 houses at Lea House was partially ready.

Private builders owned sites with road works prepared for 160 houses. Licenses for the erection of 108 houses by private builders were granted during the year and 8 houses were started and in course of erection at the end of the year. Plans were being prepared for an additional 14 houses to be erected by the Council on the Brook Road site.

The Council acquired land at Ivy House Farm for 100 houses and at Bleakhouse for 50 prefabricated bungalows. Road works were in progress on both these sites before the end of the year.

The Housing Manager tells me he had 1,630 applications on his books at 1st December, 1945, made up as follows:—

760	Childless couples
536	with 1 child
198	with 2 children
68	with 3 children
44	with 4 children
13	with 5 children
8	with 6 children
2	with 7 children
1	with 8 children.

The Health Department has knowledge of 1,714 unfit houses the occupants of which need rehousing, viz.:—

(a) Houses in clearance areas not dealt with at the out break of War	...	...	...	261
(b) Individual unfit houses not dealt with in the pre-war programme (including 80 back to back houses)	...	...	...	335
(c) Unfit houses not included in pre-war programme	1,118			
	Total	...	1,714	

As far as can be ascertained the Borough needs about 3,000 separate habitations to meet the needs of the area. Acceleration of building progress is necessary if these needs are to be met in a reasonable time.

The House Letting Sub-Committee has perhaps the most difficult task of any Committee so long as houses are in short supply. In its work the Committee makes every effort to do justice and the Tuberculosis After Care Committee has reason to be particularly grateful to the House Letting Sub-Committee for its help. The decision of the Committee to restrict letting of prefabricated bungalows to families of man, wife and two children or less is a sound one.

Water Supply.

The 1944 Report contains a statement on the water supply of the area. Samples taken during 1945 at the instance of the Waterworks Company on the one hand and the Health Committee on the other have given consistently satisfactory results.

141 houses in the area are supplied with water from the mains to standpipes or taps in yards serving two or more houses. The approximate population so served is 521. The remaining houses and population in the area received water from mains direct to individual houses.

Sewerage.

All but 9 houses in the area are on the water carriage system. The Disposal Works are modern in design and capable of dealing with sewage from the whole area. With extension of building it will be necessary to undertake a considerable amount of trunk sewer work in the not too distant future.

Specimen results of analysis by the County Analyst are as follows:—

					Zone 1.	Zone 2.	Zone 3.
					<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>
Physical Characters					Clear	Clear	Clear
Odour	...	...	...	...	None	None	None
Deposit	...	...	...	...	None	None	None
pH.	...	...	...	...	7.2	7.2	7.1

	Zone 1.	Zone 2.	Zone 3.
Chemical Examination.			
Solids in suspension (Dried at 100°C.)	None	None	None
Solids in solution (Dried at 100°C.)	33	35	20
Solids in solution. After ignition	29	28	18
Chlorides calculated as common salt	5	4.2	5
Hardness, permanent	9	12	8
Hardness, temporary	11	11	4
Hardness, total	20	23	12
Free and Saline Ammonia	0.002	0.002	0.0008
Albuminoid Ammonia	0.001	0.002	0.001
Nitric Nitrogen (Nitrates)	Trace	0.3	Trace
Nitrous Nitrogen (Nitrites)	None	None	None
Oxygen absorbed in 4 hrs. at 27°C.	0.013	0.013	0.013
Toxic Metals	None detected	None detected	None detected
Free Chlorine on receipt	None	0.003	0.001

Note:—To convert the above parts per 100,000 to grains per gallon, multiply by 0.7.

Bacteriological Examination.

Number of Colonies developing upon Agar:—

(a) In two days at 37°C....	1 per one m.l.	Nil per one m.l.	Nil per one m.l.
(b) In three days at 22°C....	1 per one m.l.	Nil per one m.l.	Nil per one m.l.
Coli-ærogens (presumptive) count	Nil per 100 m.l.	Nil per 100 m.l.	Nil per 100 m.l.
Streptococci	Absent	Absent	Absent
	Fit for drinking	Fit for drinking	Fit for drinking

Atmospheric Pollution.

On the industrial side Oldbury presents examples of extremes in that some firms produce remarkably little smoke for that type of factory while other firms seem quite indifferent to the amount of pollution caused. Persistent efforts continue to be made to interest the defaulters in their own and other peoples welfare.

Apart from smoke other noxious effluvia give trouble here. As in the case of smoke the personal factor looms large in the will to abate serious causes of discomfort and nuisance prejudicial to health.

The recent decision of the Council to install domestic apparatus designed to consume smoke in a proportion of the new houses now in course of erection is a step in the right direction. It is to be hoped that the National body in charge of fuel production will soon be in a position to offer smokeless fuel at a reasonable price for use in the domestic grate.

Diphtheria.

Prevention of Diphtheria depends on individual protection against the disease. The table at the end of the report gives details of the number of cases treated since immunisation was started in the Borough. After immunisation the most scientific method of ascertaining whether protection continues is by Schick testing. A table is included showing the results of Schick testing in the past 2 years.

It is the practice of the Department to advise immunisation as soon as possible after the first birthday, Schick testing six months later and thereafter at three yearly intervals.

Every effort is made to propagate this advice widely, but examples still remain of even large families who continue to neglect immunisation.

The number of cases of Diphtheria notified during the year was 75, 73 were removed to hospital and six died. These figures compare with 58 notified cases and ten deaths in 1944.

Two of the cases which died had been immunised but neither had been post Schick tested.

During the year 760,000 units of Diphtheria antitoxin were supplied to Medical Practitioners as compared with 820,000 units in 1944.

In all 838 children were immunised in 1945, 626 were under five years of age and 212 were between 5 and 15 years of age. The estimated percentage of the child population immunised at 31st December, 1945, is 40.40 under 5 years, and 72.30 between 5 and 15 years.

The total number of Schick tests performed was 516; 311 under 5 years and 205 between 5 and 15 years of age.

Scarlet Fever.

Only complicated cases are admitted to hospital. 70 cases were notified, 8 were admitted to hospital and none died.

24,000 units of Scarlet Fever antitoxin were supplied to practitioners.

Pneumonia.

39 cases notified, 16 cases removed to hospital and 17 deaths reported during the year.

Influenza.

Three deaths in 1945 compared with 9 in 1944.

Towards the end of the year a panel of volunteers was formed to give assistance to householders in the event of an epidemic. None of the volunteers were called upon but one has to pay tribute to those who signified their willingness to help.

Erysipelas.

12 cases were notified during the year as compared with 9 during 1944.

Measles and Whooping Cough.

The epidemic of Measles which started in June, 1944 continued until the middle of 1945. An interesting graph of the epidemic is to be found at the end of the report. Noteworthy features were: (a) cases notified in Oldbury for several weeks before neighbouring authorities were returning cases and (b) the epidemic consisted of two distinct waves spreading from North-East to South-West of the Borough. 596 cases of Measles were notified during the year and 4 cases died.

174 cases of Whooping Cough were notified—there were no deaths.

Apart from mortality among cases of these two diseases it must be more forcibly brought home to parents that both diseases treated lightly are frequently followed by serious crippling defects.

Cerebro-spinal Fever.

Two cases were notified, one was taken to hospital and both recovered without sequelæ.

Infantile Diarrhoea.

No deaths were recorded from this disease during 1945.

Although the Medical Officer of Health was aware of family epidemics of diarrhoea and vomiting lasting for a short time, repeated requests to practitioners for samples to be submitted for examination did not produce a single specimen.

Tuberculosis.

The table below shows the number of notifications of Pulmonary Tuberculosis during the years 1937 to 1945.

Notification of Pulmonary Tuberculosis—New Cases and Inward Transfers.

Year	Total	SEX		0-15 Years	15-25 Years	25-35 Years	35-45 Years	45-55 Years	55 Years & over
1937	63	Male	33	1	14	7	8	1	2
		Female	30	1	10	8	6	3	2
1938	47	Male	26	.	5	8	2	5	6
		Female	21	...	12	3	5	1	...
1939	53	Male	35	2	5	4	12	4	8
		Female	18	1	8	1	6	2	...
1940	51	Male	34	1	7	7	6	6	7
		Female	17	5	8	3	...	...	1
1941	54	Male	32	1	5	6	6	7	7
		Female	22	2	8	7	2	1	2
1942	65	Male	45	2	11	15	7	6	4
		Female	20	...	10	7	2	1	..
1943	77	Male	44	3	7	11	9	10	4
		Female	33	4	13	7	3	4	2
1944	61	Male	37	1	10	10	6	4	6
		Female	24	2	10	4	5	2	1
1945	50	Male	32	1	6	11	7	5	2
		Female	18	2	7	5	3	1	...

Eight cases of Non-Pulmonary Tuberculosis (3 males and 5 females) were notified in 1945. All except one case involved bone or joint, and the average age of these cases is about 25 years.

The number of cases of Pulmonary Tuberculosis notified is 16% below that of 1944. The reduction of 35% in the age group 15—25 years is especially welcomed,

Scabies.

During the year 358 cases of scabies were dealt with as follows:

	Cases.		Baths.		Treatments.
Male Adults ...	31	...	31	...	31
Female Adults ...	117	...	133	...	133
Children under 5	52	...	57	...	57
School Children	158	...	178	...	178
	<hr/>		<hr/>		<hr/>
Totals ...	358	...	399	...	399
	<hr/>		<hr/>		<hr/>

The corresponding figures for 1944 were 479 cases, 558 baths and 555 treatments.

Venereal Diseases. Regulation 33B.

The Borough Medical Officer of Health continues to make enquiries into cases subject to a single notification on behalf of the County Medical Officer of Health. Thirteen cases were followed up with satisfactory results.

MATERNITY AND CHILD WELFARE.

Chief Statistics, 1945.

Registrar General's figures.

Total number of live births during the year ... 1012
 Total number of stillbirths during the year ... 24
 Live birth rate 20.22 per thousand population.
 Stillbirth rate 23.16 per thousand live and stillbirths.
 Illegitimate births represent 5.33% of the total live births in the area.
 Infant mortality. 34 children died under the age of one year which represents an Infantile Mortality rate of 33.59 per thousand live births.

Births.

The total number of live births again reached four figures. The total of 1,012 live births is divisible into 517 boys and 495 girls, giving a live birth rate of 20.22 per thousand estimated population.

Of the 1,012 live births, 54 were illegitimate (27 boys and 27 girls). No illegitimate stillbirth was registered.

The Ward distribution of the births registered in the Borough is shown in the table below. For comparison the figures for the two previous years are given.

	1943		1944		1945
Central Ward ...	91	...	74	...	75
Broadwell Ward ...	51	...	65	...	51
Brandhall Ward ...	88	...	101	...	67
Bristnall Ward ...	116	...	126	...	96
Rounds Green Ward .	66	...	59	...	56
Langley Ward ...	122	...	135	...	133
Warley Ward ...	220	...	255	...	204
	<hr/>		<hr/>		<hr/>
	754	...	815	...	682
	<hr/>		<hr/>		<hr/>

It should be noted that the figures for the Warley Ward include births in the Oakdene Nursing Home. Some of these births are to parents resident in other parts of Oldbury and also to parents residing outside the Borough.

Stillbirths.

There were 24 stillbirths registered during 1945 giving a still-birth rate of 23.16 per thousand live and stillbirths, or 0.47 stillbirths per thousand of the population as compared with 1944 when the number of stillbirths was 33; the stillbirth rate 29.75 per thousand live and stillbirths, or 0.65 stillbirths per thousand population. The figures for 1945 are the lowest for 15 years.

Illegitimate Births

After only a relatively small increase in the illegitimate birth rate during the earlier War years it is regrettable that the rate doubled itself in 1945.

The full figures for the last ten years are as follows:—

Year.	Number.	Rate per 1,000 Population.	% of Total Births.
1945	54	1.079	5.21
1944	28	.557	2.52
1943	31	.618	2.73
1942	23	.469	2.24
1941	18	.364	2.08
1940	13	.266	1.37
1939	14	.295	1.55
1938	17	.374	1.81
1937	16	.359	1.79
1936	18	.418	2.05

Illegitimacy is not confined to unmarried mothers. Many of these children continue to be cared for in their original homes but the solution in many cases has been to place the child out for adoption. Such a step is taken in the very best interests of the child.

Premature Births.

Notification of birth cards provides information about babies weighing $5\frac{1}{2}$ lbs. or less at birth.

Thirty such children were born in the Borough and all but four survived for one month. One died after $3\frac{3}{4}$ hours, one at 2 days, one at 15 days and one at three weeks from overlying. Only one of this group of children was transferred to hospital.

Of children born to Oldbury mothers outside the area 14 were notified as being below $5\frac{1}{2}$ lbs. in weight at birth. All these 14 children were born in Hallam Hospital. One died after one day, the rest survived at least one month.

Infantile Mortality.

There were 34 deaths of infants under one year of age and 22 of these deaths occurred within the first four weeks of life. This is equivalent to an Infant Mortality rate of 33.59 per thousand live births, which is again the lowest figure on record for the Borough.

The corresponding figures for the previous five years are:—

1940	...	45 deaths or 49.34 per thousand live births.
1941	...	58 deaths or 70.47 per thousand live births.
1942	...	46 deaths or 46.51 per thousand live births.
1943	...	45 deaths or 41.02 per thousand live births.
1944	...	40 deaths or 37.18 per thousand live births.

An analysis of the causes of death of infants will be found in the following table:—

Infant Mortality during the Year 1945.
Nett Deaths from stated Causes at various Ages under One Year
of Age.

CAUSE OF DEATH.	Under 1 week.	1-2 weeks.	2-3 weeks.	3-4 weeks.	Total under 4 weeks.	4 weeks and under 3 months.	3 months and under 6 months.	6 months and under 9 months.	9 months and under 12 months.	Total Deaths under 1 year.
Prematurity ...	8	...	1	...	9	...	...	..	...	9
Pneumonia ...	...	...	...	...	...	2	...	1	...	3
Asphyxia at Birth ..	3	...	...	...	3	...	...	...	...	3
Measles ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	1	2
Asthenia of newborn ...	2	...	...	..	2	...	...	...	...	2
Bronchitis ...	...	...	1	...	1	2	...	..	.	3
Other Respiratory Disease	...	...	...	...	...	..	...	2	...	2
Cerebral Thrombosis ...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	1
Birth Injury ...	...	1	...	...	1	...	.	...	.	1
Marasmus ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	1
Icterus Gravis Neonatorum	...	1	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	1
Spina Bifida ...	...	...	...	...	..	1	...	...	...	1
Monster...Mongolian ..	...	1	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	1
Meningocele ...	...	...	1	...	1	...	...	...	...	1
Asphyxia—Overlaying ...	...	..	...	1	1	...	...	...	...	1
Exfoliative Dermatitis .	...	1	.	...	1	..	..	..	...	1
Hæmorrhagic disease of the newborn ...	1	...	...	...	1	...	..	...	...	1
Totals ...	14	4	3	1	22	6	2	3	1	34

Maternal Mortality.

Two mothers died in childbirth, equivalent to a rate of 1.93 per thousand total births. This figure compares favourably with previous figures for Oldbury during the past ten years.

Puerperal Pyrexia.

The number of cases of Puerperal Pyrexia notified to the Department was 7, one of these patients died in consequence. Every assistance is given by Hospitals in surrounding areas in dealing with cases of Puerperal Pyrexia which occur in the area.

Ophthalmia Neonatorum.

Six cases were notified; in 5 cases the vision was unimpaired and the sixth case was under treatment at the end of the year. The cases are treated at the Eye Hospital, Birmingham.

MEDICAL AID.

Medical Aid was required by Midwives on 158 occasions up to the end of the year and a summary of the requests received is set out below:—

Mother.

Torn perineum	...	...	...	52
Prolonged labour	...	...	...	32
Rise of temperature	...	...	...	10
Abnormal presentation	...	...	...	6
Hæmorrhage	...	...	...	8
General condition	...	...	...	4
Premature labour	...	...	...	2
Uterine inertia	...	...	...	2
Eclampsia	...	...	...	2
Other causes	...	...	...	11
Total				129

Child.

Discharging eye	...	...	...	10
Feebleness	...	...	...	2
Prematurity	...	...	...	2
Spina Bifida	...	...	...	2
Jaundice	...	...	...	1
Convulsions	...	...	...	1
Other causes	...	...	...	11
Total				29

Notifications Received from Midwives.

The following notifications were received from midwives practising in the Borough:—

Intention to practice	...	...	19
Sending for medical aid...	...	...	158
Attendance at stillbirths	...	...	6
Artificial feeding	...	...	9
Liability to be a source of infection	...	...	3
Death of mother and/or child	...	...	6

Institutional Accommodation for Maternity Cases.

The total number of births notified as having occurred in Hospitals outside the Borough was 436.

Institution.	Living.	Stillborn.
Hallam Hospital, West Bromwich	... 292	7
Poplars Nursing Home, Smethwick	... 64	4
Birmingham Maternity Hospital	... 22	3
Queen Elizabeth Hospital, Selly Oak	... 10	—
Birmingham General Hospital	... 3	—
Lodge Nursing Home, West Bromwich...	3	—
Nursing Home, 32, Portland Road, Edgbaston	... 3	—
Edgbaston Maternity Home, Birmingham	3	—
Dudley Road Hospital, Birmingham	... 2	—
Brook End Nursing Home, Edgbaston	2	—
Ashleigh Nursing Home, Harborne	... 2	—
Leefield Nursing Home, Hayley Green...	2	—
Birmingham Infirmary	... 1	—
Sandwell Nursing Home, West Bromwich	1	—
Park House Nursing Home	... 1	—
Sorrento Nursing Home, Moseley	... 1	—
St. Chad's Hospital, Birmingham	... 1	—
Mount Pleasant, Kinver	... 1	—
Bethany Nursing Home, Bristol Road, Birmingham	... 1	—
Other private addresses	... 7	—
	—	—
Totals	... 422	14
	—	—

The Barlow Maternity Home.

As a result of the generosity of Councillor and Mrs. C. T. Barlow the Borough Council is in possession of a Trust Fund with the primary object of establishing a Maternity Home in the Borough.

The Council has allocated a site for the Home with the approval of the Ministry.

During 1945 progress was made in planning the Home. The Maternity and Child Welfare Committee has accepted plans based on the recommendations of the report by the Royal College of Obstetricians and Gynæcologists.

In November, 1945, the plan was discussed informally with officials of the Ministry in London.

Midwives Act, 1936.

On the 1st January, 1945, there were five Municipal Midwives on the staff of the Department working in the district. Two additional Municipal Midwives were appointed in March to meet the needs of the service. A midwife resigned in November and the amount of work having been reduced she was not replaced.

As from 1st April, 1944, the Council agreed to pay for the services of three whole-time midwives employed by the Oldbury Nursing Association, for service in the Borough. This arrangement was made for a period of two years and appears to be working satisfactorily.

An indication of the work undertaken by the Midwives during the year can be obtained from the following table:—

Confinements as Midwife	...	...	391
Confinements as Maternity Nurse	...	...	114
Morning Nursings	...	...	7,369
Evening Nursings	...	...	2,007
Ante-Natal Clinics attended	...	...	545
Ante-Natal Visits	...	...	2,041
Special Visits	...	...	1,958

Work of the Health Visitors.

During the year 9,729 visits were made to homes in the district and 322 sessions were taken up by attendance at Ante-Natal and Infant Welfare Centres.

The work undertaken by the Health Visitors can be summarised:—

Primary visits under 12 months	...	911
Revisits under 12 months	... ..	1,906
Visits to children between 1 and 5 years...		5,791
Primary visits to expectant mothers	...	99
Revisits to expectant mothers	... ..	32
Special visits	... ..	429
		<hr/> 9,168 <hr/>

In addition to the figures given above, 39 visits were made for the purpose of enquiring into special cases, and 18 visits for investigation of stillbirths.

The number of ineffective visits during the year was 504.

These figures are lower than those presented for 1944 but in view of the lack of sufficient Health Visitors to cover the whole area, the figures given are creditable to the staff concerned.

Much remains to be done in the way of home visiting but until adequate staff is available the unpleasant fact remains that the district is not being visited as it should be.

Public Health Act, 1936, Sections 206 to 220.

The Superintendent Health Visitor and two qualified Health Visitors are duly appointed Infant Life Protection Visitors under the Act. In 1945 the number of children on the register at the beginning of the year was 2 and the number of children on the register at the end of the year was 1.

Infant Welfare Centres.

The three centres at Langley, Oldbury and Warley continued to serve the Borough throughout the year. Two sessions per week were held at Langley and Warley, while at Oldbury it was found necessary to reduce the sessions to one per week after October.

850 babies under the age of 1 year attended the Centres for the first time. This represents 83.9% of the registered live births. 81 children between the age of 1 and 5 years attended the Centres for the first time during the year.

The following table gives particulars of attendances at the three Infant Welfare Centres.

CENTRE.	Number of Sessions.		NO. OF ATTENDANCES.				SEEN BY DOCTOR.	
			Under 1.		Over 1			
	1945	1944	1945	1944	1945	1944	1945	1944
Oldbury ...	86	100	3017	3247	1337	1722	727	798
Langley ...	100	103	5922	5322	2955	2863	933	893
Warley ...	97	79	4429	4464	1937	1564	835	888
Totals ...	283	282	13368	13033	6229	6149	2495	2579

Voluntary Committees.

Once again tribute must be paid to the members of the Voluntary Committees who attend each Session at the Infant Welfare Centres. Although occasion has arisen when members have found it impossible to continue we have been fortunate in obtaining the services of others to fill the gaps.

To those who have continued right royally throughout the year the thanks of the Borough are due.

Medical Inspection of Pre-School Children between 3 and 5 years of age.

The following is a summary of the findings of medical inspections during 1945.

Number of children examined—Boys	31
“ “ “ “ Girls	23
Total	54

Found to be above average nutrition	A	...	6
Found to be of average nutrition	B	...	45
Found to be below average nutrition	C	...	3
Total	...		54

Defects found and referred for treatment.

Enlarged Tonsils and Adenoids	...	...	...	...	4
Deformities	...	...	...	...	2
Other defects	...	...	...	...	4
Eye Defects	...	...	...	...	2
					—
Total					12
					—

Ante-Natal Clinics.

The attendances at the respective clinics were as follows:—

	OLDBURY.		LANGLEY.		WARLEY.		TOTALS.	
	1945	1944	1945	1944	1945	1944	1945	1944
Number of Sessions ..	51	52	98	100	82	52	231	204
New Ante-Natal Cases	215	221	288	307	207	228	710	756
Attendances ...	1175	1135	1588	1752	1203	1302	3966	4189
Average per Session ...	23	22	16	17	14	25	17	20
New Post-Natal Cases	5	6	11	5	5	7	21	18
Post-Natal Attendances	7	7	14	7	7	17	28	31

The number of 710 new cases is 68.53% of the total registered births for the district.

Post-Natal Clinics.

No separate Post-Natal Clinics have been arranged in the Borough but 21 post-natal cases made 28 attendances at the Ante-Natal Clinics during the year.

Milk Assistance Scheme.

There is a scheme in operation whereby free milk is supplied to expectant and nursing mothers and infants up to five years of age who attend the Ante-Natal and Welfare Clinics and for whom a supply of milk is recommended by the Medical Officer. No applications were received during the year.

Dried milk and other foods were sold at the three Welfare Centres to the value of £1,894 5s. od.

Dental Treatment of Expectant Mothers.

The following figures summarise the work.

Number of new cases dealt with during 1945 ...	121
Number of those who had all the work completed	79
Number of 1944 cases who had work completed in 1945	16
<hr/>	
Total number with all the work completed ...	95
<hr/>	

Attendances.

Number of visits for interviews	79
Number of visits for denture making and service...	123
Number of visits for operative treatment ...	237

Operative Treatment.

Number of fillings	123
Number of scalings and cleanings	37
Number of root treatments	33

Local Anaesthesia (Waites Procaine) was administered 124 times and 313 teeth removed.

Gas as general anaesthetic was administered in 1 case and 3 teeth removed.

Artificial Dentures.

Number of patients who were estimated to require dentures	40
Number of dentures made and supplied... ..	46
Number of repairs	35

Dental Treatment for Pre-School Children.

Number of children treated	42
Teeth removed	78
Number of fillings	5

Ophthalmic Treatment.

Those children attending the Welfare Centres noted to be suffering from defective vision or other eye conditions are sent to Mr. Rudd, the Ophthalmic Specialist at the School Clinic.

During 1945, 12 children were examined and Mr. Rudd's analysis of the cases shows the following conditions to have been present:—

Strabismus	7
Other defects	3
No defects found	2

War Time Nurseries.

A table is appended showing the number of attendances and the average attendance at the two Nurseries during the course of the year.

TITFORD ROAD NURSERY.

	Number of Attendances				Average Attendances			
	Weekday		Saturday		Weekday		Saturday	
	Under 2 years	Over 2 years	Under 2 years	Over 2 years	Under 2 years	Over 2 years	Under 2 years	Over 2 years
January	101	281	4	14	4.4	12.2	1.0	3.5
February	187	310	13	25	9.35	15.5	3.25	6.25
March	201	316	14	22	9.57	15.05	3.5	5.5
April	213	309	11	20	10.65	15.45	2.75	5.0
May	153	314	2	13	7.65	15.7	.6	4.3
June	154	393	12	28	7.33	18.71	2.4	5.6
July	130	324	9	14	5.9	14.73	2.25	3.5
August	101	185	8	13	5.32	9.73	2.66	4.33
September	213	254	13	16	10.65	12.7	2.6	3.2
October	216	383	2	18	9.39	16.65	0.5	4.5
November	195	374	2	19	8.86	17.0	0.5	4.75
December	55	350	2	20	3.05	19.44	0.4	4.0
Totals ...	1919	3793	92	222				

MOAT ROAD NURSERY.

	Number of Attendances				Average Attendances			
	Weekday		Saturday		Weekday		Saturday	
	Under 2 years	Over 2 years	Under 2 years	Over 2 years	Under 2 years	Over 2 years	Under 2 years	Over 2 years
January	48	106	5	9	2.08	4.61	1.25	2.25
February	119	254	14	30	5.95	12.7	3.5	7.5
March	177	345	9	28	8.43	16.43	2.25	7.0
April	265	386	19	28	13.25	19.3	4.75	7.0
May	215	352	14	16	11.32	18.52	3.5	4.0
June	240	406	7	21	11.43	19.33	1.4	4.2
July	203	366	3	7	9.23	16.64	0.75	1.75
August	130	239	7	15	6.84	12.58	2.33	5.0
September	135	251	11	28	6.75	12.55	2.2	5.6
October	182	247	11	22	7.91	10.74	2.75	5.5
November	199	288	15	22	9.04	13.09	3.75	5.5
December	42	344	1	29	2.33	19.11	0.20	5.8
Totals ...	1955	3584	116	255				

Correctia Notifications of Infectious Diseases during 1945.

Notifiable Disease.	Cases Notified in Whole District.												Total Cases Notified in each Ward.						TOTAL	Total cases re- moved to Hospital.	TOTAL DEATHS																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																														
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	Under 1.	1 and under 2.	2 and under 3.	3 and under 4.	4 and under 5.	5 and under 10.	10 and under 15.	15 and under 20.	20 and under 35.	35 and under 45.	45 and under 65.	65 and upwards																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																							
Acute Poliomyelitis	...	1</

CAUSES OF DEATHS, 1945.

Registrar General's figures.

CAUSES	TOTAL	AGE GROUP.										WARDS.						
		SEX.		Under 1 year	1-2 years	2-5 years	5-15 years	15-25 years	25-45 years	45-65 years	65 and over	Central	Broadwell	Brandhall	Rounds Green	Langley	Warley	Bristnall
		M	F															
1. Typhoid and Paratyphoid Fevers	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
2. Cerebro-spinal Fever	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
3. Scarlet Fever	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
4. Whooping Cough	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
5. Diphtheria	6	5	1	...	1	1	3	1	...	...	...	1	...	1	1	2	...	1
6. Tuberculosis, Respiratory	26	16	10	...	...	...	...	3	11	10	2	4	3	1	4	6	4	4
7. " other forms	3	2	1	...	...	1	1	...	...	1	...	...	1	2	...	...	...	...
8. Syphilitic Diseases	1	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
9. Influenza	3	3	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	1	1	...	...	...	1	1	...	1
10. Measles	4	4	...	2	2	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	1	...	2	...
11. Ac. Poliomyelitis and Polio- encephalitis	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
12. Ac. infectious encephalitis	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
13. Cancer—																		
buccal cavity, { œsophagus M.	6	6	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	1	4	1	3	...	...	1	1	...
uterus F.	3	...	3	...	...	...	...	...	1	1	1	1	...	...	1	...	...	1
14. " stomach and duodenum	12	8	4	...	...	...	...	...	1	6	5	2	1	3	2	2	...	2
15. " breast	6	...	6	...	...	...	...	...	1	1	4	...	1	...	...	3	...	2
16. " of all other sites	42	28	14	...	...	...	1	...	2	20	19	3	5	8	4	7	7	8
17. Diabetes	4	2	2	...	...	...	1	...	...	2	1	...	1	2	...	1	...	...
18. Intra-cranial Vascular Lesions	48	24	24	1	...	...	...	...	2	16	29	9	8	9	2	10	4	6
19. Heart Disease	106	57	49	...	...	...	...	...	7	21	78	17	11	19	8	12	19	20
20. Other Circulatory Diseases	17	9	8	...	...	...	...	...	...	4	13	4	1	1	1	7	2	1
21. Bronchitis	42	24	18	3	...	...	...	...	2	15	22	10	6	7	2	4	7	6
22. Pneumonia	17	11	6	3	...	1	...	...	1	4	8	5	3	1	2	2	2	2
23. Other Respiratory Diseases	8	3	5	2	...	...	...	...	...	3	3	...	1	2	...	3	...	2
24. Ulcer of Stomach and Duodenum	3	3	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	2	...	...	...	...	...	2	...	1
25. Diarrhœa (under 2 years)	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
26. Appendicitis	2	2	...	...	...	...	2	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	1	...
27. Other Digestive Diseases	8	2	6	1	1	...	...	...	...	1	5	1	1	1	1	3	1	...
28. Nephritis	10	4	6	...	1	...	...	...	...	4	5	1	...	...	2	5	...	2
29. Puerperal and post abortive sepsis	2	...	2	...	...	...	...	...	2	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	1
30. Other Maternal Causes	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
31. Premature Birth	9	6	3	9	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	2	2	1	...	2	2
32. Congenital Mal: birth injury: infantile diseases	11	10	1	9	1	...	...	...	...	1	...	2	...	...	2	2	3	2
33. Suicide	8	4	4	...	...	...	...	...	...	6	2	2	1	2	1	2	...	...
34. Road Traffic Accidents	3	3	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	2	...	...	...	...	1	2	...
35. Other Violence	12	5	7	1	1	...	2	...	3	1	4	2	2	1	3	3	...	1
36. All Other Causes	30	13	17	3	...	1	1	1	1	7	16	8	2	4	2	4	2	8
TOTALS	452	255	197	34	7	4	12	5	37	129	224	73	53	68	41	84	59	74

RESULTS OF SCHICK TESTING TO 31st DECEMBER, 1945.

NEGATIVE SCHICK TESTS ON UNBOOSTED CASES

POSITIVE SCHICK TESTS—BOOSTED—
SUBSEQUENTLY NEGATIVE

Age at Immunisa- tion	TIME INTERVAL BETWEEN IMMUNISATION AND SCHICK TEST										TOTAL	TIME INTERVAL BETWEEN IMMUNISATION AND SCHICK TEST										TOTAL
	TOTAL											TOTAL										
	0-3 Mths.	3-6 Mths.	6-9 Mths.	9-12 Mths.	1-2 Yrs.	2-3 Yrs.	3-4 Yrs.	4-5 Yrs.	5-6 Yrs.	6-7 Yrs.		0-3 Mths.	3-6 Mths.	6-9 Mths.	9-12 Mths.	1-2 Yrs.	2-3 Yrs.	3-4 Yrs.	4-5 Yrs.	5-6 Yrs.	6-7 Yrs.	
Years																						
0 - 1	...	8	27	3	...	4	4	3	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	1	1	...	...	...	3
1 - 2	...	114	389	8	14	19	25	6	5	2	...	...	5	...	...	...	4	2	...	...	...	13
2 - 3	...	24	88	4	2	7	6	6	2	1	...	...	2	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	7
3 - 4	...	14	56	4	11	7	1	8	2	1	...	...	2	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	2
4 - 5	...	7	41	1	2	1	3	7	2	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
5 - 6	...	18	73	4	6	9	18	4	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
6 - 7	...	9	41	...	3	12	12	10	2	...	...	...	2	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	2
7 - 8	...	3	26	2	2	10	17	7	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	6
8 - 9	...	11	36	...	1	11	18	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	6
9 - 10	...	9	20	1	4	3	4	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	4
10 - 11	...	9	19	...	3	5	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	2
11 - 12	1	5	27	5	2	1	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	4
12 - 13	...	5	25	2	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
13 - 14	4	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
14 - 15
TOTALS'...	1	236	872	34	50	89	109	52	13	5	...	...	17	1	2	8	10	9	2	...	2	51

Total number of Schick tests performed to 31st December, 1945 = 1,570

" " Negative results ... 1,461

" " Positive results ... 63

(a) Number rendered negative by further treatment 51

(b) Number who did not undertake further treatment 12

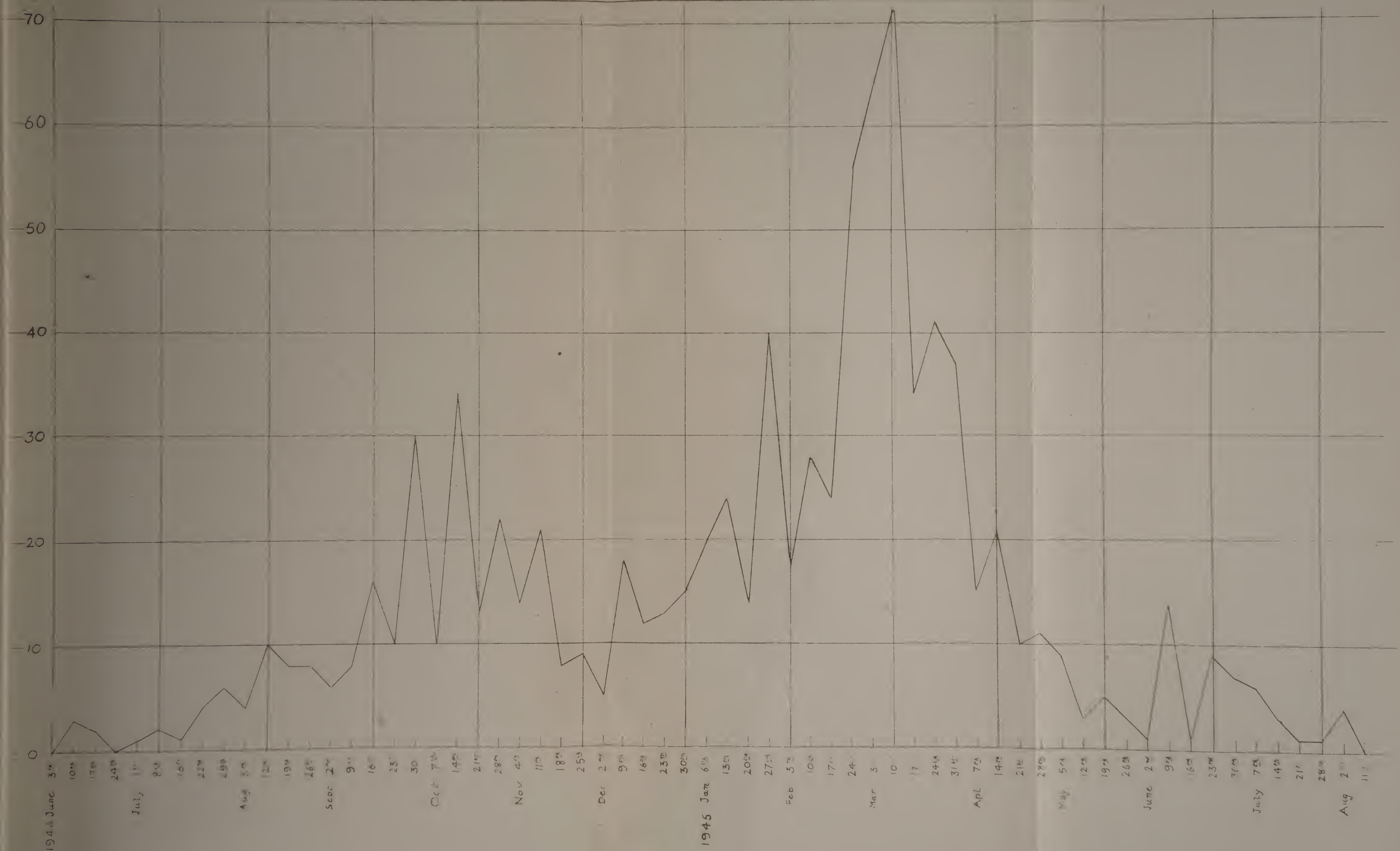
" " Schick tests who did not attend for reading 46

DIPHTHERIA IMMUNISATION at 31st December, 1945.

Year of Birth	YEAR OF IMMUNISATION															Totals in Year of Birth	Age at 31-12-45 Years	Totals in Age Groups	No. Immunised to Date at Age in Column 17
	1932	1933	1934	1935	1936	1937	1938	1939	Before 1940	1940	1941	1942	1943	1944	1945				
Column No.	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19
1945															3	3	0— 1	1,799	50
44														3	395	398	1— 2		1,442
43													7	314	151	472	2— 3		922
42												9	257	161	48	475	3— 4		616
41											6	203	151	62	29	451	4— 5		569
1940										8	149	200	103	55	32	547	5— 6	2,915	737
39								3	—	43	124	151	97	63	33	514	6— 7		861
38							3	29	12	36	122	179	138	53	19	591	7— 8		657
37						2	10	22	47	20	82	193	176	33	28	613	8— 9		561
36					4	10	18	28	54	20	152	194	103	43	24	650	9—10		539
35				1	7	3	12	22	40	21	250	136	85	25	27	629	10—11	2,987	488
34			—	6	3	8	11	18	59	24	276	89	78	15	16	603	11—12		470
33		1	4	2	4	11	17	15	50	15	220	101	100	27	14	581	12—13		405
32	—	1	—	2	5	23	19	8	40	15	244	102	103	23	14	599	13—14		384
31	2	2	1	7	10	20	6	17	26	13	224	108	119	15	5	575	14—15		167
1930	2	1	7	9	20	9	18	13	32	7	208	81	147	5	—	559	15—16	1,177	7
29	—	4	2	7	11	18	7	2	10	8	168	54	98	—	—	389	16—17		2
28	—	—	—	1	2	2	1	—	—	—	154	13	—	—	—	173	17—18		1
27	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	46	1	—	—	—	47	18—19		—
26	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	6	—	—	—	—	6	19—20		—
25	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	—	—	—	—	2	20—21		—
24	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	1	21—22		—
TOTALS	4	9	14	35	66	106	122	177	370	230	2,434	1,814	1,762	897	838	8,878	—	8,878	8,878

NOTE.—Column 9. These figures relate to children whose parents stated, at a survey held in 1940, that “ the children had already been immunised.”

INCIDENCE OF MEASLES FROM 3rd JUNE 1944 TO 11th AUGUST 1945



Borough of Oldbury.

Annual Report

OF THE

Chief Sanitary Inspector

AND

Cleansing Superintendent

FOR THE

YEAR ENDED 31st DECEMBER, 1945.

E. HARROLD, F.S.I.A., M.Inst.P.C.

Chief Sanitary Inspector and Cleansing Superintendent

BOROUGH OF OLDBURY.

To the Chairman and Members of the Health Committee of the Borough of Oldbury.

Mr. Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen,

I have pleasure in submitting in statistical form my Annual Report for the year 1945.

Housing repairs were more numerous than during the war years, but shortage of labour and materials were again the principal obstacles in the way of substantial progress.

The inspection and supervision of food supplies was maintained, 535 inspections being recorded. Slaughtering of animals for human food still continues at the abattoir at Great Bridge, and I am able to report that the general quality of the meat distributed in this Borough throughout the year was of a good standard and very few complaints were received.

Co-operation between H.M. Factory Inspector and this Department resulted in several sanitary improvements at local factories. There is, however, the disturbing factor of nuisances from smoke and dust at a number of our Factories which will demand and receive our attention in increasing measure now that the war is over, nuisances which call for abatement in the interests of fuel economy and a purer atmosphere.

The house refuse collection and disposal service was again handicapped by an insufficiency of suitable labour which was mostly evident during the winter months when illness amongst the employees added further to our difficulties. In consequence it was not possible to maintain a regular periodical service of collection. Disposal of refuse, by the method of controlled tipping, was, however, efficiently carried out.

The quantity of salvage materials collected and disposed of was 1,191 tons compared with 1,463 tons in 1944. Waste food, which was sterilized at our Depot, amounted to 549 tons and waste paper and cardboard 358 tons. This service appears likely to continue for a number of years because of the difficult supply position, and in this respect the Corporation again appeals to housewives, shopkeepers, schools, salvage stewards, factory owners, etc., to co-operate as wholeheartedly in the reconstruction period as they did during the war years.

Under the Rats and Mice (Destruction) Act and Infestation Orders much useful work was accomplished in dealing with the 162 infestations investigated.

Finally I would like to express my thanks to the staff for their wholehearted co-operation and the Chairman and Members of the Health Committee and the Chief Officers of other Departments for their valuable support and advice.

I am,

Mr. Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen,

Yours obediently,

E. HARROLD,

Chief Sanitary Inspector
and

Cleansing Superintendent.

Sanitary Department,
Municipal Buildings,
Oldbury.

Summary of Inspections and Revisits during the year 1945.

						Inspection	Revisits
Infectious Disease Prevention	...	...	...	...	...	113	67
Houses and Premises	...	...	...	...	...	280	371
Overcrowding	...	...	...	...	...	11	1
Water Closets and Drains	...	...	...	...	...	358	415
Slaughter-houses Market and Shops and Food Stores (including Private Slaughtering)	...	...	...	...	...	483	39
Dairies, Cow-sheds and Milk Shops	...	...	...	...	...	52	1
Keeping of Animals and Poultry	...	...	...	...	...	37	18
Factories	...	...	...	...	...	22	40
Dirty and verminous Houses and Premises	...	...	...	...	...	78	74
Canal Boats	...	...	...	...	...	3	—
Offensive Accumulations	...	...	...	...	...	5	—
Tents, Vans and Sheds (including temporary buildings)	...	...	...	...	...	2	3
Refuse Disposal Tips	...	...	...	...	...	155	—
Rats and Mice Nuisances	...	...	...	...	...	85	2
Rent Acts	...	...	...	...	...	17	13
Salvage	...	...	...	...	...	374	—
Food and Drugs Samples	...	...	...	...	...	74	—
Dustbins	...	...	...	...	...	642	715
Schools	...	...	...	...	...	27	—
Water Supplies and Samples	...	...	...	...	...	9	—
Offensive Trades	...	...	...	...	...	8	1
Canals and Brook Courses	...	...	...	...	...	9	6
Miscellaneous	...	...	...	...	...	469	370
No. of Interviews	...	...	...	...	...	663	

**Summary of defects remedied, improvements effected and
nuisances abated under the Housing, Public Health
and O.U.D.C. Acts during the year 1945.**

Drains opened and cleansed from obstruction	...	...	163
Drains provided with efficient traps	...	...	4
Drains relaid and repaired	...	...	16
New drains and intercepting chambers provided (excluding new houses)	...	...	4
Drains disconnected from sewer or abolished	...	...	2
Drains colour tested	...	...	16
Houses cleansed and/or repaired under Public Health Act, 1936	...	...	46
Defective spouting repaired or disconnected or new spouting provided	...	...	15
Houses provided with better ventilation, and existing windows made to open	...	...	13
Firegrates repaired or provided	...	...	17
Wash-houses repaired and/or limewashed	...	...	5
New sinks provided	...	...	2
Water removed from cellars	...	...	1
New waste pipes provided and others repaired	...	...	10
Houses cleansed and re-decorated after Infectious Disease...			2
Additional water closets provided	...	...	1
Water closets repaired and/or limewashed	...	...	22
Water closets provided with new pedestals	...	...	26
Defective water closet cisterns repaired	...	...	18
New water closet cisterns provided	...	...	6
Water supply restored to houses	...	...	1
Offensive accumulations removed	...	...	3
Nuisances from animals abated	...	...	3
Houses provided with sanitary dustbins	...	...	842
Miscellaneous	...	...	123

GENERAL STATISTICS.

Notices Served.

Informal ... 244 Statutory ... 72

Inspection of Dwelling-houses during the year 1945.

Total Number of Dwelling-houses inspected for housing defects	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	804
Number of Inspections made for the purpose	...	...						1,884
Number of Dwelling-houses found not to be in all respects reasonably fit for human habitation	...	...						804
Number of defective Dwelling-houses rendered fit in consequence of informal action by the Local Authority or their Officers	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	538
Number of Dwelling-houses in respect of which notices were served requiring defects to be remedied	...	...						237
Number of Dwelling-houses in which defects were remedied after service of formal notices:								
(a) By Owners	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	92
(b) By Local Authority in default of owners	...							—
Number of Building Licences issued for repairs	...	...						23
Number of Dwelling-houses included in Clearance Areas which were demolished during the year	...	...						—
Number of other houses demolished	...	...	...					—

Infectious Diseases, etc.

Visits to houses on account of notifiable disease	...	...						177
Houses disinfected after notifiable disease	...	...						41

Moveable Dwellings, Caravans, etc.

Number observed	...	...	...	...	...	...		2
Number dealt with as insanitary	...	...	...	...				1

Sanitary Conveniences.

Number of Privy Middens in use at end of year	...	...						2
Number of earth or pail closets in use at end of year	...							10

House Refuse Collection and Disposal.

Number of houses from which refuse was removed	...	13,735
Number of dustbins cleansed periodically	...	13,733
Estimated number of tons of house refuse collected	...	12,432
Gross cost of house and trade refuse collection and Disposal	...	£10,696
Gross Income (excluding salvage)	...	£333
Net expenditure	...	£10,363
Total cost per premises cleansed	...	15s. 1d.
Estimated net cost per ton (collection and disposal)	...	16s. 8d.
Number of dustbins provided	...	842
Expenditure on purchases	...	£823
Income from sales	...	£906

Salvage of Waste Materials.

Gross income	...	£4,896
Gross expenditure	...	£4,766
Weight collected in tons:—		
Waste Paper	...	358
Textiles	...	23
Ferrous Scrap	...	191
Bones	...	13
Best metals	...	3
Glass	...	54
Waste food	...	549
	Total	1,191

Offensive Trades.

Number under observation	...	30
--------------------------	-----	----

Water Supply.

Number of houses supplied from Water Works during the year	...	13,682
Number of samples of water sent for analysis	...	9

Slaughter-houses and Shops.

Cases of slaughtering on unlicensed premises reported...	134
Weight of meat condemned (in lbs.)	154
Other foods	3,798
Eggs	80

Milk.

Number of Registered dairy farms in the area	...	...	4
Number of Registered retailers in the area	...	...	43
Number of licences under Milk (Special Designations)			

Orders:—

	Tuberculin Tested (Pasteurised)		Pasteurised	Accredited	Tuberculin Tested	
Bottlers	...	—	...	—	...	I
Retailers	...	2	...	9	...	8
Producers	...	—	...	—	...	—
Approximate number of milking cows in the district					...	50

Food and Drugs Act and Milk and Dairies Act.

Number of samples taken for analysis	...	...	...	58
Number of samples certified genuine	...	...	...	58
Number of samples taken for bacteriological tests		...	...	20

Factories Act, 1937.

Number of inspections	...	...	...	...	...	62
Number of defects found	....	...	...	...	...	9
Number of defects remedied		...	...	...	...	4

Other matters.

Verminous houses—cases dealt with	...	...	...	...	11
Stagnant water	...	...	...	...	—
Nuisances arising from domestic animals and/or poultry				...	19
Rats and Mice (Destruction) Act—cases dealt with		...	...	...	162

Canal Boats.

Number of canal boats on register	...	...	...	...	14
Number of canal boats registered during the year			...	...	I
Number of other canal boats inspected	...	...	...	...	2
Number of contraventions found	...	...	...	...	I

